

CLAIMS:

1. A sealed spherical bearing having a bearing housing, a ball located therein and a ring-like seal having an inner edge and an outer edge located between the bearing housing and the ball, one of the edges having a head and a skirt depending therefrom, the head lying in an annular groove formed in one of the ball or the housing and the skirt lying on a lip upstanding from the groove to define at least two sealing lines between the seal and the one of the ball or the housing, the other edge of the seal being fixedly mounted to the other of the ball or the housing.
2. A sealed bearing according to Claim 1, wherein the groove is formed in the ball, the inner edge has the head and the skirt depending therefrom and the outer edge is fixedly mounted to the bearing housing.
3. A sealed bearing according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the skirt is directed radially inwardly from the head.
- 20 4. A sealed bearing according to any preceding claim, wherein the skirt tapers from a root end at the head to a tip end.
5. A sealed bearing according to any preceding claim, wherein the upstanding lip is a side-wall of the groove.
- 25 6. A sealed bearing according to any preceding claim, wherein a gap is provided between the sealing line defined by the head and the sealing line defined by the skirt.

7. A sealed bearing according to any preceding claim, wherein the skirt makes a sealing contact over a circumferential area of the upstanding lip.
- 5 8. A sealed spherical bearing substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as shown in the accompanying drawings.
9. Any novel feature or combination of features disclosed herein.

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 27 August 2004 (27.08.04);
original claim 1 amended; original claim 9 cancelled;
remaining claims unchanged (2 pages)]

1. A sealed spherical bearing having a bearing housing, a ball located therein and a ring-like seal having an inner edge and an outer edge located between the bearing housing and the ball, one of the edges having a head and a skirt depending therefrom, the head lying in an annular groove formed in one of the ball or the housing, wherein the head is free to ride in the groove, and the skirt lying on a lip upstanding from the groove to define at least two sealing lines between the seal and the one of the ball or the housing, the other edge of the seal being fixedly mounted to the other of the ball or the housing.
2. A sealed bearing according to Claim 1, wherein the groove is formed in the ball, the inner edge has the head and the skirt depending therefrom and the outer edge is fixedly mounted to the bearing housing.
3. A sealed bearing according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the skirt is directed radially inwardly from the head.
4. A sealed bearing according to any preceding claim, wherein the skirt tapers from a root end at the head to a tip end.
5. A sealed bearing according to any preceding claim, wherein the upstanding lip is a side-wall of the groove.
6. A sealed bearing according to any preceding claim, wherein a gap is provided between the sealing line defined by the head and the sealing line defined by the skirt.

7. A sealed bearing according to any preceding claim, wherein the skirt makes a sealing contact over a circumferential area of the upstanding lip.
8. A sealed spherical bearing substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to and as shown in the accompanying drawings.
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